

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 16, 19-22, 40, 43, 44, 46-49 and 51 have been amended. These amendments do not contain new matter and are fully supported by the specification. After these amendments are entered, thirty three (33) claims (Claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19-22, 40 and 42-53) remain pending in this application through this Amendment. Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly point out and distinctly claim the invention, and submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the **claims** by the present amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Marking To Show Changes Made."

Claim objection

The objection of claims 1, 16 and 40 has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 2, 4-14, 40, 42, and 44-53 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al (US 6,158,862) in view of Patel (US 5,252,262). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

First, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that Figure 2 of Patel shows a continuous one-piece lens and haptic structure. There is some discontinuity between the central optic and the haptic surrounding the central optic in Figure 2. Applicants resubmit that Patel et al does not disclose a monolithically produced intraocular lens with haptics.

Independent claims 1, 16, and 40 have been amended to specify that the optic and haptic are monolithically formed and, identically to each other, comprise a silicone polymer, acrylic polymer, hydroacrylic polymer, 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer, polymethylmethacrylate polymer or combinations thereof and that a polyimide coating on at least the anchoring region of the haptic. Patel et al does not disclose or suggesting anything about a polyimide coating on at least the anchoring region of the haptic which comprises material(s) identical to what the optic comprises. In contrast to the different materials in the haptic and coating required by the claims, Patel refers to a haptic which is made completely of one polymer, which may be a polyimide (col 4, lines 45-48). Patel does not disclose a haptic comprising any of the above materials and coated on at least the anchoring region of the haptic with a polyimide. Thus, Patel et al and Patel, alone or in combination, do not disclose anything about that both the optic and the haptic are made of same material(s).

about that the haptic is made of any of the above materials that are different from a polyimide for forming a polyimide coating on at least the anchoring region of the haptic. Applicants respectfully submit that the primary reference (Patel et al), alone or in combination with the secondary reference (Patel), does not provide any motivation or guidance to a person skilled in the art to make necessary changes to its disclosure to arrive at the present invention, and as such a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection.

Claims 15-17, 19-22 and 43 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al and Patel as applied to claims 1,2, 4-14, 40, 42 and 44-53 above and further in view of Cumming (US 5,047,051). The combination of Patel et al and Patel also forms the basis for the rejection of claims 15-17, 19-22 and 43, under 35 USC 103(a) in combination with other secondary references. These rejections are traversed for the reasons stated above.

In summary, Applicants submit that pending claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19-22, 40 and 42-53 are not obvious over the cited references, since none of the cited references, alone or in combination with others, teaches or suggests anything about the Applicants invention, and since none of the cited references, alone or in combination with others, provide any motivation for making the necessary changes to its disclosure to arrive at the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objections and rejections set-forth in the Office Action and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19-22, 40 and 42-53.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion with Applicants' representative would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned. Please address all correspondence to Thomas Hoxie, Novartis Corporation, Corporate Intellectual Property, One Health Plaza, Bldg. 430, East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees with may be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0134.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 16, 19-22, 40, 43, 44, 46-49 and 51 as follows:

1. (Amended) An intraocular lens for surgical implantation in the eye, the lens comprising:

an optic, and

at least one haptic which is monolithically formed with the optic to structurally and integrally secure the haptic to the optic and has an anchoring region located away from the optic ~~connected to the optic and having a core and a polyimide coating over the core at least on a distal end away from the optic;~~

a polyimide coating on at least the anchoring region of the haptic;

wherein the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise ~~core are monolithically formed from one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of a~~ silicone polymer, an acrylic polymer, a hydroacrylic polymer, a 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer, a polymethylmethacrylate polymer, and or combinations thereof.

2. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein the polyimide coating is formed by applying a photocurable polyimide pre-cursor on at least the ~~distal end~~ anchoring region of the haptic, and then curing the polyimide pre-cursor.

4. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ silicone polymer.

5. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ acrylic polymer.

6. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer.

7. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ polymethylmethacrylate.

9. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the anchoring region ~~distal end~~ has been treated before the polyimide coating has been applied to increase the bonding strength between the core and the polyimide coating.

10. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 9 wherein the surface of the haptic at least on the anchoring region is treated by a corona discharge.

11. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 9 wherein the surface of the haptic at least on the anchoring region is treated by an oxidizing agent.

12. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 1 wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the anchoring region ~~distal end~~ has been treated before the polyimide coating has been applied by contacting the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the anchoring region with an adhesion promoter effective to enhance the bond strength of the polyimide coating to the haptic.

16. (amended) An intraocular lens comprising:
an optic; ~~and~~
two plate haptics diametrically opposed and extending radially away from the optic, each of the haptics having a groove in a distal peripheral edge ~~at distal peripheral end~~; and

~~wherein a polyimide coating on the interior of the groove; has a polyimide coating thereon and~~

~~wherein the optic and the plate haptics are monolithically formed from one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of~~ and, identically to each other, comprise a silicone polymer, an acrylic polymer, a hydroacrylic polymer, a 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer, a polymethylmethacrylate polymer, and combinations thereof.

19. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 16 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ silicone polymer.

20. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 16 wherein ~~the polymeric material is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise~~ acrylic polymer.

21. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 16 wherein ~~the polymeric material~~ is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer.

22. (amended) The intraocular lens of claim 16 wherein ~~the polymeric material~~ is the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise polymethylmethacrylate.

40. (Amended) A device for implantation in a human to be anchored in a secured position within human tissue, the device comprising:
a biologically inert exterior surface region; and
a polyimide coating on at least an anchoring region ~~portion of said surface~~ region, the coating sufficient to be effective to promote fibrosis of the surrounding tissue with the polyimide to enhance the anchoring of the device to the surrounding tissue;
wherein the device is shaped in the form of an intraocular lens, the intraocular lens comprising an optic and at least one haptic which is monolithically formed with the optic to structurally and integrally secure the haptic to the optic and has the anchoring region located away from the optic, the haptic having a core, wherein said polyimide coating is on said core; and
wherein the optic and haptic, identically to each other, comprise ~~core are monolithically formed from one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of a~~ silicone polymer, an acrylic polymer, a hydroacrylic polymer, a 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate polymer, a polymethylmethacrylate polymer, and or combinations thereof.

43. (amended) The device of claim 40, comprising two haptics shaped in the form of a plate, diametrically opposed and extending radially away from the optic, each of the haptics having a groove in a distal peripheral edge ~~at distal peripheral end~~, wherein the polyimide coating is on ~~the interior of the groove has a polyimide coating thereon.~~

44. (amended) The device of claim 40, wherein the polyimide coating is formed by applying a photocurable polyimide pre-cursor on at least the anchoring region ~~core~~ of the haptic, and then curing the polyimide pre-cursor.

46. (amended) The device of claim 40, wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the ~~distal end~~ anchoring region has been treated before the polyimide coating

has been applied to increase the bonding strength between the core and the polyimide coating.

47. (amended) The device of claim 46 wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the anchoring region is treated by corona discharge.

48. (amended) The device of claim 46 wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the anchoring region is treated by an oxidizing agent.

49. (amended) The device of claim 40, wherein the surface of the haptic ~~core~~ at least on the the anchoring region ~~distal end~~ has been treated before the coating has been applied by contacting the haptic core with an adhesion promoter effective to enhance the bond strength of the polyimide coating to the haptic core.

51. (amended) The device of claim 40, wherein the polyimide coating is formed by treating at least a ~~portion~~ the anchoring region of the surface of the haptic ~~core~~, applying a photocurable polyimide pre-cursor to the treated region, and curing the polyimide pre-cursor.